

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Tatsumi MATSUMOTO
Title: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS
AND METHOD OF CONTROLLING
THE APPARATUS
Appl. No.: Unassigned
Filing Date: September 19, 2001
Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: Unassigned

#4
DEWIER
3-23-00



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
Box PATENT APPLICATION
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of a document known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed document is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Document A1 discloses a device with a plurality of output trays and notifies the user to which tray the sheet is output.

An English translation of document A1 is not readily available; however, the absence of such a translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted document (37 C.F.R. § 609). An English language abstract is provided for document A1.

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

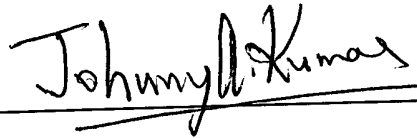
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 19, 2001

FOLEY & LARDNER
Washington Harbour
3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20007-5109
Telephone: (202) 672-5489
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Johnny A. Kumar", written over a horizontal line.

Johnny A. Kumar
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 34,649

